

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 AF-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 SCCT-01 /089 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MX AO

SUBJECT: MPLA DELEGATION VISITS MEXICO

REF: MEXICO 536

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: MEXICO CITY'S EXCELSIOR REPORTED JAN 21 THAT A DELEGATION OF THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA (MPLA) CALLED ON FOREIGN SECRETARY GARCIA ROBLES TO REQUEST "POLITICAL HELP" DURING THE COURSE OF A SHORT VISIT HERE (JAN 17 TO 21). THE DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY HENRIQUE DE CARVALHO, A MEMBER OF THE MPLA'S, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, AND ALSO INCLUDED ROBERTO DE ALMEIDA, OF THE MPLA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPT AND PAULETTE MORAIS LOPES OF THE MPLA'S JURIDICAL COMMITTEE.

2. DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 20, DE CARVALHO MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS" ... THERE IS NO CIVIL WAR (IN ANGLOA); WE ARE FIGHTING AGAINST MERCENARIES AND INVADERS FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND ZAIRE. SOONER OR LATER WE WILL EXPEL THEM ALL. THE MERCENARIES, TRAINED BY THE CIA, DO NOT KNOW THE TERRITORY. NOR DID THEY KNOW IT IN THE CONGO IN 1960 WHERE 600 MERCENARIES ACTED AS IF IT WAS THEIR COUNTRY.

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THE AMERICANS INTEND TO REVIVE THE SLOGANS THEY USED IN

SOUTHEAST ASIA. BUT THESE HAVE FAILED THEM BECAUSE THERE ARE MANY VERY INTELLIGENT POLITICIANS IN EUROPE AND AFRICA, FOR EXAMPLE, WHO DO NOT SWALLOW THEIR ARGUMENTS."

3. IN THE SAME JANUARY 21 EDITION, EXCELSIOR ALSO CARRIED JOHN M. CREWDSON'S NYT STORY ALLEGING CIA HAD UNDERVALUED ARMS SUPPLIED TO FNLA IN ANGOLA. HEADLINE ASSERTED THAT ITS AIM WAS TO CONCEAL US ASSISTANCE ROLE"FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES". END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. DURING A CONVERSATION WITH THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES JANUARY 20, UNDERSECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS JOSE GALLASTEGUI CONFIRMED THAT THE MPLA DELEGATION WAS IN MEXICO. GALLASTEGUI SAID THAT THE GOM WOULD LISTEN TO THE MPLA STORY BUT INTENDED TO TAKE NO ACTION BEYOND THAT. THOMPSON

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